

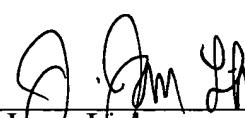
## REMARKS

Applicant submits this Preliminary Amendment for consideration in the present application. The amendments to the claims are voluntary. Support for the amendments can be found at pages 3, 4, and 13. As the foregoing amendments are voluntary, the range of available equivalents should not be limited. The amendments place the application in better condition prior to examination and add no new matter.

A favorable Office Action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact J. Jason Link at 336.607.7443 or Charles W. Calkins at 336.607.7315 to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 13, 2004

  
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